

**ATTACHMENT A**
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. Canceled.
2. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the protein is cell-wall associated, and binds both soluble and immobilized fibrinogen.
3. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the antibody recognizes a protein that is cell wall-associated, exhibits cation-dependent ligand-binding and has a highly conserved motif of which the consensus sequence is TYTFTDYVD (SEQ ID NO: 16).
4. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 which is raised against the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
5. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 which is raised against the A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
6. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein comprises SEQ ID NO:10.
7. (Currently amended) ~~The isolated antibody according to Claim 1~~An isolated antibody that binds to an SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis* wherein the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein is encoded by the nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:7.

8. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody according to Claim 7 that recognizes the ligand binding A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

9. (Currently amended) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 47 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.

10. (Currently amended) Isolated antisera containing the antibody according to Claim 47.

11-12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The isolated antibody according to Claim 7 wherein said antibody is reactive with a protein that is cell wall-associated, exhibits cation-dependent ligand-binding and has a highly conserved motif of which the consensus sequence is TYTFTDYVD (SEQ ID NO: 16), wherein the protein is isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

14. (Original) An isolated antibody according to Claim 13 wherein the protein comprises the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

15. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody according to Claim ~~43~~7 wherein the ~~protein comprises~~antibody binds to the ligand binding A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

16. (New) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 2 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.

17. (New) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 3 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.